

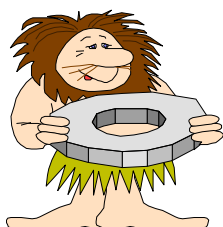
NEWS AND VIEWS

of Chemical Preparedness

EPA Region VIII

Winter 1999 — Volume 1

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Welcome to the new News & Views. I invite your input as far as news from your agencies that may be of interest to others. Address your news to C.G. Heister at the above address or fax to 303-312-6071 or e-mail Heiste.Charles@epa.gov.

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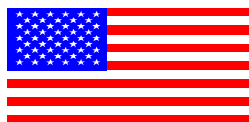
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Environmental Protection Agency Counter – Terrorism

Most people would not make the connection between a coordinated, national counter-terrorism program and the mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). But when you examine the subject a little more closely, the connection becomes quite clear. EPA has a long-standing, mandated



responsibilities for preparing for and responding to emergencies involving oil, hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants (which include chemicals, biological and radiological materials), that could also be components of a weapon of mass destruction (WMD). Given the increased attention on the threat of terrorism, EPA continues to work to build upon and enhance its existing hazardous substance and oil emergency response program to become better prepared to respond to a terrorist incident that may involve a WMD. EPA's emergency response program in

essence must evolve in coordination with the state and local responders.

EPA Response Resources (To Counter - Terrorism)

On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs)

EPA has approximately 220 On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) located nationwide. The OSCs carry out EPA's response and preparedness efforts under the National Contingency Plans (NCP). The NCP describes in detail the roles and responsibilities of the OSC and the personnel of the other 15 federal agencies that participate in the National Response System in support of the OSC. EPA OSCs work with tribal, state, and local responders, and responsible parties to protect human health and the environment from releases/potential releases of hazardous substances and discharges of oil in the inland zone of our country. At the Regional-level, OSCs have access to response and technical assistance contractors and equipment to address mitigation, removal, treatment, decontamination, and disposal issues. If needed, the OSC has access to the additional National-level resources of the NRS. These particular resources may also be employed in response to a terrorist attack involving chemical, nuclear, or biological agents. EPA continues to work to get OSCs additional training and equipment to better prepare them for coordinating a response to a terrorist incident.

Questions? Contact Jim Knoy
(303) 312 - 6838

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Chemical Safety Audit Program is Now Region wide

By Brad Miller

The Chemical Safety Audit program, a voluntary, non-regulatory program for minimizing and mitigating releases of hazardous materials, has spread throughout the six state Region. Comments about the program received during the past year included:

"The result of the audit surpassed the initial goal & Mitsui's expectations. The recommendations made by the team were constructive, cost effective and practical. – Mitsui Advanced Media

With such feedback from facilities, EPA has expanded the audit program to include Colorado, Utah, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Audits are being planned for Wyoming and Montana for the coming year.

The audit program has focused on small to medium-sized facilities that use or produce hazardous materials. In years past, an audit would take about five days and produce a report that was about 3/4 inch thick. The type of audit presently being done is generally completed in a day or less and generates a report that is about four pages long.

The current audit format allows facility staff and the audit team to make more efficient use of their time, both during the audit and when implementing audit recommendations. Audit teams welcome participation from LEPCs and first responders and use the audit to enhance dialogue between the facility and these parties.

If you work at or know of a facility that you think could benefit from this kind of audit, please contact Bradley Miller, CSA Program Coordinator, at (303) 312 - 6483. The audit team is looking for facilities with exemplary track records, innovative and effective approaches to hazardous materials issues, and facilities that could benefit from this kind of technical assistance.

What's an LEPC to do? Public Law 106-40—New Requirements for RMP Facilities

By Barbara Benoy

Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) have been receiving information on Risk Management for several years now and were probably aware of “coordination” efforts that Risk Management facilities were scheduled to do with their LEPCs. The Risk Management Program has been in the “implementation” stage now for just about 4 months. Prior to the June 21, 1999 due date, facilities throughout the United States and its territories reviewed their facilities, assessed hazards associated with processes, re-evaluated their security systems, considered emergency response capabilities and quietly submitted their Risk Management Plans, (RMPs). The due date came and went without being the media event that some people had envisioned. Most RMPs were submitted to EPA using the RMP *Submit program, putting the facility plans in electronic format. Electronic filing allows the information to be and used much easier than paper copies. Easier for EPA, easier for state and local representatives, but most importantly, easier for community

members.

However, a debate began about a year ago. The debate centered on the issue of how much information, and what kind of information should be “easily accessible” to just anyone. Risk Management Plans include information about “off-site consequences” that could happen is a chemical release occurred. The question asked is just how much information about community impacts should be available over the Internet in light of increased terrorist activities here in the United States and throughout the world.

As a result, congress issued Public Law 106-40 on August 5, 1999 restricting access to off-site consequence information. Public Law 106-40 essentially suspends Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) access to this information to the general public for one year. But in the spirit of Community Right-to-Know, Congress believes that the communities still need access to information provided in the RMPs.

Therefore, RMP facilities find themselves with a new requirement. RMP Facilities must hold a public meeting to provide their communities with their risk management program information. EPA, as well as state programs, are once again encouraging facilities to coordinate with their LEPCs. These meetings must be held prior to February 1, 2000. Facilities must then certify to the FBI that the meeting was conducted. More information on the

specific requirements of the public meeting and how to certify to the FBI can be found at EPA's website at www.epa.gov/ceppo/pubs/fbi-4.pdf.

The due date for submitting Risk Management Plans may have passed quietly, but the new public meeting requirement promises to create a bit more noise. For more information, contact Region VIII's RMP Coordinator, Barbara Benoy at (303) 312 - 6760

Risk Management Plans are now available in a condensed form to anyone with access to the World Wide Web. Just go on-line to EPA's Envirofacts website at www.epa.gov/enviro.

CAMEO

By Jim Warren

The new CAMEO Suite is now available for distribution from

www.epa.gov/ceppo/cameo. The new CAMEO Version 1.2, Marplot 3.2.1 and ALOHA 5.2.3 are being distributed **FREE**

of charge and are all Y2K compliant. Simply complete the order form on the web page and submit. You can also call 1-800-490-9198 to order the new CAMEO. You will receive a CD-ROM that contains all three programs, Technical Service will no longer be available from the National Safety Council as in the past, but will be provided by EPA through Regional contacts. Region 8's contact is Jim Warren, (303) 312 - 6851, or warren.jim@epa.gov. Please feel free to

call or E-mail any and all questions, or visit the CAMEO web site listed above.

There is a wealth of information now and more will be coming in the next few months, such as updates, areas of concern, known "Bugs", etc.

You should try to build a "User network" among other CAMEO users through the web site or on your own. Creation of such a network will enable users to establish helpful contacts for their CAMEO problems as well as helping others within the network.

To help distribute information to old and new users, please provide your name and E-mail address, and telephone number to Jim Warren via E-mail. This way we can transmit some of the questions and answers received by users to everyone in the Region for information purposes.

Information provided by states:

Colorado

by Len Boulas, OEM

The Colorado Office of Emergency Preparedness advises the following Grants are available for the year 2000. For further information contact Len Boulas at OEM 303-273-1782.

U. S. Department of Transportation Grant

1. Hazardous Materials -\$83,000 available funds annually
20% Non Federal-Share (Cost Share)

A. Training Grants \$53,000

20% Non Federal-Share

Eligible Applicants

Fire Depts., - State-Local Agencies

**Administered by: Colorado
Division of Fire Safety.**

Use, Special Considerations-----

**To provide HazMat training for public
sector first responders.**

B. Planning Grants \$30,000

20% Non Federal-Share

Eligible Applicants

LEPCs

**Administered by: Colorado Office
of Emergency Management and Colorado
Emergency Planning Commission.**

Use, Special Considerations ----

**Grants for risk assessment - commodity
flow studies, regionalization, response
plans, plan exercises.**

**Federal Emergency Management
Administration---\$150,333 available
funds annually**

**1. State & Local Assistance (SLA100)
Enhanced HazMat Emergency
Preparedness \$40,000**

0 % Cost Share

Eligible Applicants

**State & Local Agencies, LEPCs,
Private Nonprofit.**

**Administered by: Office of
Emergency Management and Colorado
Emergency Planning Commission**

Use, Special Considerations -----

**To support activities of the CEPC & to
fund grants supporting the overall
priority & emphasis of the Commission.
Funds may be used to purchase
equipment.**

**2. Superfund Amendment & Re-
Authorization Act. (SARA) Title III
\$52,500**

20% Non-Federal Share

Eligible Applicants

**State & Local Agencies, LEPCs,
Private Non-profits**

**Administered by: Colorado Office
of Emergency Management and Colorado
Emergency Planning Commission.**

**A. Training Grants – \$26,500
20% Non-Federal-Share**

Eligible Applicants:

**Fire Depts., State & Local
Agencies**

**Administered by: State Div. Of
Fire Safety.**

Use and Special Considerations:

**Grants for public sector first
responder hazmat training.**

**B. General Grants – \$26,500
20% Non-Federal-Share**

**Eligible Applicants
LEPCs & State Agencies**

**Administered by: Colorado Office
News & Views Fall 1999**

**of Emergency Preparedness, Colorado
Emergency Preparedness Commission**

Use and Special Considerations:

**To support CEPC training &
public information related activities**

**3. Comprehensive Environmental
Response, Compensation & Liability Act
(CERCLA) \$5,333**

0% Federal-Share

**Eligible Applicants:
LEPCs & State Agencies**

**Administered by: Colorado Office
of Emergency Management and Colorado
Emergency Preparedness Commission**

Use and Special Considerations:

**These are funds passed by EPA to
FEMA for support of activities related to
the EPA regional response team.**

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Chemical Emergency
Preparedness Program (CEPP).
\$2,000,000 Nationally**

25% Non-Federal Share

**Eligible Applicants:
State Agencies - LEPCs**

**Administered by: Colorado Office
of Emergency Preparedness, Colorado
Emergency Preparedness Commission**

Use and Special Considerations:

**Grants can be made directly from
the EPA to the grantee. Annual national
application process & competition to meet
national priorities of EPA.**

**The application for grants can be
obtained from the Colorado Office of
Emergency Management, 15075 South
Golden, Co. 80401**

**Training Grant applications may
be obtained from Colorado Division of
Fire Safety at (303) 239 - 4463**

**General HazMat Grant
applications may be obtained from Office
of Emergency Management at
(303) 273 - 1619**

**We would appreciate any input from State
agencies that may have information which
would be of interest to others.**

